

EAST SUFFOLK COUNTY EDUCATION
COMMITTEE



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Principal School Medical Officer

1955

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HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNTY HALL, IPSWICH.
May, 1956.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

MY LORDS, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the annual report on the work of the School Health Service for 1955.

It is pleasing to be able to report that, despite a considerable increase in various other branches of work, the School Medical Officers were able to examine a slightly larger number of children at routine medical inspections during this year than they did in 1954.

The number and type of defects found provide a clear indication that the health of the pupils is being maintained at a satisfactory level, and although personal opinion amongst the medical staff plays a large part in classification, it is encouraging to note that the number of children whose general condition was classified as "good" has significantly increased in all the age groups, while no important change has occurred in the number of those recorded as "poor".

Once again the total number of head examinations carried out by the nurses has increased, while the number of children found to be verminous was lower than last year.

I do not think there is any need for me to comment on the activities of the School Dental Service as this is dealt with by the Principal School Dental Officer in the body of the report.

Perhaps the most disappointing aspect of the year has been the difficulties which have beset the Speech Therapy Service, and one can only hope that it will be possible to fill the vacancies which exist for Speech Therapists during 1956.

As part of a long term campaign to reduce to the minimum the incidence of tuberculosis in East Suffolk, an intensive effort was begun during the year in co-operation with, in particular, the Ipswich Group Hospital Management Committee's Chest Clinic and the Consultant Chest Physician, to skin test as many school children as possible in certain parts of the County; the areas first selected are, for administrative reasons, all reasonably near Ipswich, but it is hoped to extend the field of operations as soon as staffing and other conditions permit. All those children who show a positive reaction to the skin test are X-rayed to make certain no disease is present. Their families are also tested and X-rayed to help to find the source of the infection and the parents are questioned about possible unknown sources, likely contacts, milk supplies, etc. In this way it is hoped to reveal the pattern of tuberculosis in the community.

During the year the Chairman and Members of the School Welfare Sub-Committee have ever been most helpful; the Chief Education Officer, his teaching and administrative staff, and my own staff, both professional and clerical, have all given ready assistance in furthering the aims of the School Health Service. It gives me very real pleasure, therefore, to record here my thanks for this support.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

S. T. G. GRAY,

Principal School Medical Officer.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

1. (a) Staff.

Principal School Medical Officer:

S. T. G. Gray, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

School Medical Officers:

P. G. Cannon, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (from 14/3/55).

K. M. Harding, M.D., D.P.H.

C. H. Imrie, T.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

J. F. Morrison, M.D., D.C.H. (part-time).

G. E. Pryce, M.B., Ch.B., B.A.O. (part-time).

The aggregate of time given to School Health Service work is equivalent to the services of 2.31 full-time Officers.

Speech Therapists:

Miss S. Barker, L.C.S.T. (resigned 17/4/55).

Miss J. Bennett-Baggs, L.C.S.T. (resigned 13/11/55).

Mrs. E. A. Smyth, L.C.S.T.

Principal School Dental Officer:

Mr. C. D. Macpherson, L.D.S.

School Dental Officer:

Mr. J. E. Benfield, L.D.S.

County Nursing Officer:

Miss M. Vaughan-Jones, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Deputy County Nursing Officer:

Miss H. Place, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (from 4/8/55).

School Nurses: Miss E. L. Almblad, Miss B. C. Broughton, Miss J. P. Cosnett, Miss W. M. Deakin, Miss B. L. Frost, Miss M. N. Hardingham, Miss P. M. Harvey, Miss P. J. Lambert (resigned 7/8/55), Miss S. Leighton, Miss L. Luff, Miss M. M. Pearsons, Miss A. Rooney, Miss M. Scott (part-time), Miss K. Smith, Miss O. L. Swann (part-time), Miss D. Wilding (from 17/10/55), Miss S. J. Williams.

The aggregate of time given to School Health Service work is equivalent to the services of 6.1 full-time School Nurses.

Dental Attendants:

Miss M. Burrows.

Miss S. Forster.

1. (b) School Clinics.

The following are the permanent clinics in the Education Authority's area:—

County Area:

<i>Place.</i>	<i>Address.</i>	<i>Services Provided.</i>
Ipswich ...	The County Hall	Dental (Orthodontic), by appointment only.
Leiston ...	The County Health Clinic, "Daneway," Haylings Rd.	Dental. Speech Therapy.
Saxmundham	The County Health Clinic, Saxmundham	Speech Therapy. Child Psychiatry (by Regional Hospital Board).
Stowmarket	The County Health Clinic, 8 Violet Hill	Dental. Speech Therapy. Ophthalmic (by Regional Hospital Board).

Lowestoft Excepted District:

Connaught House Clinic, 123 High Street.	Minor ailments.
Kirkley Clinic, Southwell Road	Minor ailments. Dental. Speech Therapy.

2. Co-operation with other Public Health Services.—As during last year liaison between all concerned with the health of the school child has been satisfactory.

PRIMARY, SECONDARY MODERN AND GRAMMAR SCHOOLS.

3. Hygiene and Sanitation in Schools.—During the last twelve months only a limited amount of improvement work has been possible, but 30 schools have benefited as follows:—

Mains water connected to 22 schools.

New cesspools constructed at 3 schools.

Washbasins provided at 10 schools.

New or additional lavatories provided at 4 schools.

New drainage laid or improvements to existing drainage carried out at 6 schools.

4. Medical Inspection in Schools.—The area of the administrative County for school purposes, excluding the Borough of Lowestoft, is 543,812 acres, with a population of 174,224 (1951 census), 213 schools in the County are under the control of the Education Committee (193 Primary, 12 Secondary Modern, 7 Secondary Grammar and Ashley Downs Special School, Lowestoft).

The number of children on the school register at the end of the December term was 23,524.

East Suffolk
(excluding Lowestoft).

1953	...	...	22,846 (including 1,758 at Secondary Grammar Schools).
1954	...	...	23,255 (including 1,846 at Secondary Grammar Schools).
1955	...	...	23,524 (including 2,006 at Secondary Grammar Schools).

(a) *Routine Medical Inspection.*—The following routine examinations were made during the year:—

		1955.	1954.	1953.
Entrants	... ..	2,563	2,052	2,697
Second Age Group	... ..	2,000	1,742	1,901
Third Age Group	... ..	1,130	1,208	1,627

(b) *Other Inspections.*

Ashley Downs Special School	...	49
*Special Examinations and Re-examinations		4,176
Total	...	9,918

*Special examinations, 293

Total number of individual children examined was		8,784
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5. Findings of Medical Inspection.

(a)

	Number of Children examined.	GENERAL CONDITION.					
		Good.		Fair.		Poor.	
		No.	Per- centage.	No.	Per- centage.	No.	Per- centage.
1954	5067	2881	56.85	2154	42.51	32	0.63
1955	5742	3623	63.09	2048	35.66	71	1.23

(b) *Uncleanliness.**Vermin Tables.*

	No. of Visits to Schools by School Nurses.	No. of home visits.	Number of Examinations by School Nurses.			Number of Children examined and found verminous.					
						New Cases, for first time.			Individual Repeat Cases.		
			Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
1950	829	262	27185	26380	53565	67	156	223	18	82	100
1951	791	146	27753	26582	54335	26	120	146	6	41	47
1952	548	80	23076	22173	45249	27	85	112	11	32	43
1953	743	196	30854	29195	60049	48	124	172	20	64	84
1954	689	151	31121	29327	60448	35	110	145	9	35	44
1955	723	134	31924	29906	61830	32	73	105	14	23	37

The number of children found to be verminous for each 1,000 head examinations was:—

1950	...	...	4.16
1951	...	...	2.70
1952	...	...	2.49
1953	...	...	2.86
1954	...	...	2.39
1955	...	...	1.70

(c) *Ringworm of the Head.*—No cases of ringworm of the head were diagnosed or treated through the School Health Service during 1955.

(d) *Visual Defects and External Eye Diseases.*

Year.				Defective Vision.	
				Referred for Treatment.	Observation Cases.
1954	...	...	...	246	761
1955	...	...	...	216	708

Year.				External Eye Disease.	
				Referred for Treatment.	Observation Cases.
1954	...	...	...	8	37
1955	...	...	...	21	35

(e) *Nose and Throat Defects.*

Year.	Tonsils and Adenoids.	
	Referred for Treatment.	Observation Cases.
1954	31	304
1955	23	316

6. Following Up.

During the year the School Nurses made 1,047 visits to the homes of children in need of medical and surgical treatment to ensure that the parents consulted the family doctor and carried out his recommendations.

7. Medical Treatment.

(a) *Minor Ailments and Diseases of the Skin.*—There are no Minor Ailment Clinics in the County, and children suffering from these conditions were referred to their private Medical Practitioner when treatment was required.

(b) *Visual Defects and External Eye Diseases.*—The arrangements made for this work to be carried out through the Supplementary Ophthalmic Services under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, appear to be working satisfactorily. These arrangements are supplemented by the Regional Hospital Board, who have at present one ophthalmic clinic in operation in the County, held in the Committee's clinic premises at Stowmarket. Information so far obtained by follow-up home visits shows that of 158 children whose sight was tested by ophthalmic medical practitioners or ophthalmic opticians, 124 were prescribed glasses and 114 have obtained them. In 4 cases no change of existing spectacles was required and in 29 cases glasses were found to be unnecessary at present. One child with a squint was recommended for operative treatment.

(c) *Nose and Throat Defects.*

Tonsils and Adenoids.

Since all children who are considered by the School Medical Officers at routine medical inspections to require treatment for nose and throat defects are now referred to their own doctors, it is not possible to provide any accurate statistics. Information so far obtained by follow-up home visits shows that 17 children have received operative treatment, while 11 were not considered to require it at present.

Other Conditions.

Six children were referred for treatment for various nasal conditions and, as far as can be ascertained, all have been treated,

(d) *Dental Inspection and Treatment.*

The Principal School Dental Officer, Mr. C. D. Macpherson, L.D.S., reports as follows:—

A Dental Surgery has been equipped at the Stowmarket Clinie, and it has been used for the treatment of school-children during the Autumn term. This surgery will be used on a sessional basis in future, so that there will be a greater opportunity for continuity of treatment than has been possible hitherto.

It is encouraging to report that an additional Dental Officer has been appointed and he will commence duty on 1st March, 1956.

During the year more time has been devoted to the treatment of expectant and nursing mothers and children under five years of age.

Our most serious and urgent problem is to combat the high incidence of dental caries evident in children 3-6 years of age with subsequent premature loss of their deciduous teeth. In my last report I stressed the desirability of giving information to parents whereby they could help to safeguard their children's teeth and this information has been given in several ways in addition to chairside instruction.

Suitable pamphlets have been obtained and distributed to mothers giving the relevant information on diet and hygiene; display cabinets of sectional models have been borrowed from the Dental Board for exhibition; Dental Educational films have been shown for the guidance of mothers, and Health Visitors have emphasised the importance of positive measures to maintain dental health.

Illustrated folders have been given to the older children, after their teeth have been scaled and polished, to encourage them to brush their teeth regularly and correctly.

So much suffering of dental origin could be avoided if a radical change in the public's approach to dentistry could be achieved. We must strive to facilitate such a change through parental enlightenment.

(e) *Orthopaedic and Postural Defects.*

Since, during 1950, the responsibility for the making of appointments for school-children to see the Orthopaedic Surgeon at the East Suffolk and Ipswich Hospital was passed to the Hospital Management Committee it has not been possible to establish an effective system for the exchange of information. No statistics relating to this form of treatment can therefore be given.

(f) *Child Guidance.*

The Ipswich Group Hospital Management Committee's Consultant Psychiatrist, Dr. J. G. Howells, has kindly submitted the following short statistical summary of the work carried out by his Department during the year in respect of children residing in the Committee's area:—

"Cases on current treatment list on 1.1.55	...	126
New Cases—East Suffolk (excluding Lowestoft and Ipswich)	... ..	110
Referred by—G.P.s and Hospitals	... ..	100
School Medical Officer	... ..	9
Courts	... ..	1
		—
		110
		—
Clinic Interviews	... ..	1,386
School Visits	... ..	23
Home Visits	... ..	92
Number of children attending, 31.12.55	...	88

(g) *Speech Therapy.*

At the end of the year only one Speech Therapist, Mrs. E. A. Smyth, L.C.S.T., remained on the Committee's staff, and as this officer was at that time off duty owing to a prolonged illness, the Speech Therapy Service in the County was entirely suspended. Although every effort has been made, it has not so far been possible to make any appointment and it is a matter for very real regret that this service, which is appreciated by so many children, parents and teachers, should have received this setback at a time when its usefulness was becoming ever more obvious.

In the circumstances no up-to-date statistical information can be given, but in December, prior to Mrs. Smyth's absence, 121 children were receiving treatment for various speech defects and the waiting list had reached the exceptionally large number of 317.

8. Infectious and Contagious Diseases.

The table below shows the number of children known to have been excluded from school, either suffering from, or being contacts of the infectious and contagious diseases named.

			<i>No. of Cases.</i>
Chicken-pox	...	...	856
Diphtheria	...	...	—
Measles	...	...	947
Mumps ...	...	...	196
Scarlet Fever	...	...	72
Whooping Cough	...	...	230
German Measles	...	...	114
Impetigo	...	...	22
Ringworm (skin)	...	...	1
Scabies	...	...	8
Jaundice	...	...	11
Poliomyelitis	...	...	7
Tonsillitis	...	...	10
Conjunctivitis	...	...	3
Influenza	...	...	148
Dysentery	...	...	77

Early in the year there was an outbreak of Sonne dysentery in a small area of the County.

This infection was of a mild type and consequently a number of cases occurred before positive identification was possible. Fortunately the parents of the children attending school, the children themselves, and the teaching and kitchen staff concerned were all very co-operative in the matter of obtaining samples for testing; as a result, the District Medical Officer of Health, the Sanitary Inspector and the local medical practitioners were successful in their efforts to limit the outbreak, which quickly subsided.

School Closures:—There was no need to close any school on account of infectious disease during 1955.

9. Physical Training and Remedial Exercises.

The Committee's Chief Organiser of Physical Education, Mr. H. Stott, reports as follows:—

"No changes were made in the method of dealing with cases reported and there was continued co-operation from all concerned. Parents, generally, were most anxious to play their part and appreciated the opportunity to

contribute in some practical way in improving the physical condition of their children.

The publication, 'Moving and Growing', by the Ministry of Education, and its impact on the teachers, probably showed to a greater advantage in the past year than formerly. Teachers were more aware of defects and the more individual approach to physical education aids considerably the correct execution of exercises recommended.

(a) Total number of children concerned:—

1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
113	240	282	124	167

(b) Summary of cases reported. N.B.—Some cases fall under more than one heading.

Foot conditions	...	...	...	85
Round Shoulder, Poor posture, etc.	...	...	...	86
Mouth breather	...	...	...	11

(c) Distribution of cases:—

	<i>Under 12</i>	<i>Over 12</i>	<i>Total</i>
(i) Boys: 1951	38	21	59
1952	72	54	126
1953	88	64	152
1954	42	21	63
1955	57	8	65
(ii) Girls: 1951	26	28	54
1952	54	60	114
1953	55	75	130
1954	38	23	61
1955	68	34	102

(d) Schools:

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
County Grammar ...	18	24	9	12	0
County Modern, Area and Full Standard ...	51	128	167	47	54
Junior and Infant ...	44	88	106	65	113"

10. School Meals.

The number of children taking meals in 1955 was about 14,740 or 62.7% of the children at school, compared with 62.2% in 1954.

The new Farlingaye School, Woodbridge, has been furnished with a well equipped kitchen and dining space capable of supplying 250 meals daily, while a small kitchen at Raydon School has been provided to replace one which has become inadequate. Stowupland and Stutton Schools have been supplied with sculleries, while the following now have a main water supply, Marlesford, Easton, Knodishall, Friston, Butley, Rendlesham and Dennington.

Bawdsey School meals—discontinued last year owing to fallen demand—have been restored.

The Education Committee thanks those teachers who have helped in the work of supervision.

11. Provision of Milk for School Children.

1. *Popularity of the Scheme.*

During the year liquid milk was delivered to all schools in the County and of 23,550 children on roll in October, 17,962, that is 76.3%, were receiving milk; the corresponding figure for 1954 was 75.2% and for 1953 76.9%.

2. *Delivery.*

At the end of the year all school milk was supplied in one-third pint bottles.

The milk was delivered by 43 dairymen, 40 of these obtain milk pasteurised and bottled at 18 licensed pasteurisation establishments, the remaining 3 delivered raw milk produced and bottled at their own dairies.

3. *Quality of Milk.*

(a) *General.*

The County Medical Officer of Health must approve all supplies and where possible milk should be Pasteurised or Tuberculin Tested. At the end of the year only 3 schools were not receiving "Pasteurised Milk"; 2 of these, Tuddenham and Pettaugh, were receiving Tuberculin Tested, and 1, Thrandeston, was receiving an undesignated supply, this school, however, was closed at the end of 1955.

The grades of milk approved are shown in the table below, figures for 1954 are given in parenthesis. The table clearly indicates the further very marked decrease in the amount of raw milk supplied to schools.

**Types of milk approved by the County Medical Officer,
December, 1955.**

<i>Designation</i>	<i>No. of Schools</i>	<i>Percentage of all Schools</i>	<i>No. of 1/3rd pints daily</i>	<i>Percentage of total supply</i>
Pasteurised ...	210 (196)	98.59 (92.45)	17,909 (16,379)	99.70 (96.34)
Tuberculin Tested ...	2 (15)	0.94 (7.08)	45 (613)	0.25 (3.61)
Undesignated ...	1 (1)	0.47 (0.47)	8 (9)	0.05 (0.05)

(b) *Supervision of Supplies.*

Seven of the 18 sources of pasteurised milk are situated within the County, in these cases supervision was maintained by inspection of dairies, plant, bottles, etc. In all other cases a close liaison is maintained with Officers of the appropriate Food and Drugs Authorities for this purpose.

Samples of milk were examined for the following purposes:—

(i) *Freedom from Infection.*

All raw milk supplies were examined biologically. 17 samples were taken and all were found to be negative for tubercle and brucella organisms.

(ii) *Keeping Quality and Efficiency of Pasteurisation*

Sixty-two samples were taken for this purpose and all samples satisfied the statutory tests.

(iii) *Chemical Quality.*

Thirty-three samples were examined for this purpose and in 4 cases samples were below the legal presumptive standard for butter fat and/or solids not fat. In one instance the deficiencies were caused by the presence of added water, formal samples were taken, but in view of the very small addition concerned, and the fact that there were also natural deficiencies in the milk produced, the producer was warned; this dairyman no longer supplies school milk. In the other cases deficiencies were 'natural' and the suppliers were warned.

12. Co-operation with Voluntary Bodies.

National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

As in the past, the Officers of the Society have this year been very helpful in ensuring that in certain cases children received medical treatment. They have also been of great assistance in the more general aspect of the welfare of children attending the Committee's schools.

13. Handicapped Pupils.—The Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations, 1953, detail ten categories of defects which require special educational treatment, and the following statistics indicate the progress that has been made in ascertaining and dealing with children who come within the scope of the Regulations. More detailed statistical information will be found in the Tables at the end of this Report.

Educationally Subnormal.—The following table shows the number of educationally subnormal children at present ascertained in the County, 56 of whom are at present in residential Special Schools.

Year	No. of Educationally Subnormal Children on Register at end of year.	No. of Children mentally tested during year	Classified as—				
			Requiring treatment in a Special School		Requiring special class at an ordinary School	Retarded only, not requiring any Special Education	Requiring Notification to Local Authority as being ineducable.
			Res.	Day			
1954	161	51	31	—	6	—	14
1955	175	36	22	—	3	1	10

Other Defects—

	<i>Total. ascertained.</i>	<i>At Special School.</i>
Blind Pupils	—	—
Partially Sighted Pupils	5	4
Deaf Pupils	13	13
Partially Deaf Pupils	8	6
Delicate Pupils	6	1
Epileptic Pupils	3	3
Maladjusted Pupils	24	15
Physically Handicapped Pupils	22	8
Pupils suffering from Speech Defect	—	—

Multiple Defects.

Educationally Subnormal and Physically Handicapped	2	—
Educationally Subnormal and Maladjusted	3	3
Educationally Subnormal and Epileptic	2	1
Epileptic and Educationally Subnormal and Maladjusted	1	1
Physically Handicapped and Educationally Subnormal	2	—
Educationally Sub-Normal, Physically Handicapped and Partially Sighted	1	—

14. Full Time Courses of Higher Education for Handicapped Children.

The following was the position at the end of the year:—

Blind Awards :—

Students in training	1
Students awaiting training	—

Cripple Awards :—

Students in training	1
Students awaiting training	—

Deaf Awards :—

Students in training	—
Students awaiting training	—

15. Nursery Schools.

There are at present no Nursery Schools in the County.

EAST SUFFOLK COUNTY EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURN, 1955.

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND
 SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups

Entrants	...	...	...	...	...	2,563
Second Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	2,000
Third Age Group	...	...	...	...	...	1,130
Total						5,693

Number of other Periodic Inspections	...	...	...	49
Grand Total				5,742

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections	...	...	...	293
Number of Re-Inspections	...	...	...	3,883
Total				4,176

C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Number of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to require
 Treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin).

GROUP. (1)	For defective vision (exclud- ing squint). (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table II.A. (3)	Total individual pupils. (4)
Entrants ...	40	56	79
Second Age Group ...	36	75	88
Third Age Group ...	16	21	29
Total (prescribed groups)	92	152	196
Other Periodic Inspec- tions ...	3	6	8
GRAND TOTAL ...	95	158	204

TABLE II.

A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION
IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1955.

NOTE:—All defects noted at medical inspection as requiring treatment are included in this return, *whether or not this treatment was begun before the date of the inspection.*

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease.	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
		No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
		Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under ob- servation, but not re- quiring treatment.	Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under ob- servation, but not re- quiring treatment.
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
4	Skin	1	55	—	—
5	Eyes—				
	(a) Vision	95	628	11	18
	(b) Squint	1	61	—	1
	(c) Other	2	35	—	—
6	Ears—				
	(a) Hearing	2	45	—	3
	(b) Otitis Media	5	55	—	—
	(c) Other	—	39	1	—
7	Nose and Throat	11	448	2	6
8	Speech	11	50	1	1
9	Cervical glands	2	97	—	2
10	Heart & Circulation	1	50	—	—
11	Lungs	1	160	—	2
12	Developmental—				
	(a) Hernia	2	5	—	1
	(b) Other	2	55	—	—
13	Orthopaedic—				
	(a) Posture	52	125	—	4
	(b) Flat Foot	49	166	—	1
	(c) Other	13	227	—	4
14	Nervous System—				
	(a) Epilepsy	—	7	—	—
	(b) Other	—	5	—	—
15	Psychological—				
	(a) Development	1	33	—	1
	(b) Stability	—	13	—	1
16	Other	1	121	—	5

B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE AGE GROUPS

Age Groups.	No. of Pupils Inspected.	A. (Good).		B. (Fair).		C. (Poor).	
		No.	% of col. 2.	No.	% of col. 2.	No.	% of col. 2.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants ...	2,563	1,471	57.39	1,038	40.50	54	2.20
Second Age Group	2,000	1,295	64.75	690	34.50	15	0.10
Third Age Group ...	1,130	818	72.21	310	27.43	2	0.18
Other Periodic Inspections ...	49	39	79.59	10	20.41	—	—
Total ...	5,742	3,623	63.09	2,048	35.66	71	1.23

TABLE III.

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN.

(i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorized persons ...	61,830
(ii) Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested ...	105
(iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944) ...	—
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944) ...	—

TABLE IV.

TREATMENT TABLES.

Notes.

(a) Treatment provided by the Authority includes all defects treated or under treatment during the year by the Authority's own staff, however brought to the Authority's notice i.e. whether by periodic inspection, special inspection, or otherwise, during the year in question or previously.

(b) Treatment provided otherwise than by the Authority includes all treatment known by the Authority to have been so provided, including treatment undertaken in school clinics by the Regional Hospital Board.

GROUP 1.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanness, for which see Table III).

					Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year.	
					By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Ringworm (i) Scalp	...	...			—	—
(ii) Body	...	...			—	—
Scabies	...	...			—	—
Impetigo	...	...			—	—
Other skin diseases	...	...			—	2
Total	...	...			—	2

Nil.

As far as known.

GROUP 2.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

					Number of cases dealt with.	
					By the Authority.	Otherwise.
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	...	...			—	10
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	...	...			— *	161
Total	...	...			—	171
Number of Pupils for whom spectacles were						
(a) Prescribed	...	...			— *	127
(b) Obtained	...	...			— *	117

Nil

As far as known.

* Including cases dealt with under arrangements with the Supplementary Ophthalmic Services.

GROUP 3.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE & THROAT.

	Number of Cases treated.	
	By the Authority.	Otherwise.
Received operative treatment—		
(a) for diseases of the ear ...	—	—
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	—	19
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	—	—
Received other forms of treatment ...	—	26
Total ...	—	45

As far
as
known.

GROUP 4.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

(a) Number treated as in-patients in Hospitals ...	—		
	By the Authority.	Otherwise.	As far as known
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g., in clinics or out-patients depart- ments	Nil	10	

GROUP 5.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT.

	Number of cases treated	
	In the Authority's Child Guidance Clinics	Elsewhere
Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	Nil	236

GROUP 6.—SPEECH THERAPY.

	Number of cases treated	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists	374	Not known

GROUP 7.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN.

	Number of cases treated	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
(a) Miscellaneous minor ailments ...	—	5
(b) Other than (a) above (specify)	} Nil	} As far as known
1. Enuresis		
2. Hydrocele		
3. Naevus		
4. Undescended testes		
5. Other defects		
Total ...	—	21

TABLE V.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers—					
(a) Periodic	...	...	...	...	7,121
(b) Specials	...	...	...	...	98
Total (1)					7,219
(2) Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	4,319
(3) Number offered treatment	...	...	...	...	4,319
(4) Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	2,717
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	...	...	...	...	3,453
6) Half-days devoted to:	Inspection	...	...	...	90
	Treatment	...	...	...	623
Total (6)					713
(7) Fillings:	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	1,957
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	276
Total (7)					2,233
(8) Number of Teeth filled:	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	1,817
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	269
Total (8)					2,086
(9) Extractions:	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	366
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	2,287
Total (9)					2,653
(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	...	...	...	...	12
(11) Other Operations:	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	406
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	504
Total (11)					910

In addition, 164 attendances were made for orthodontic treatment in 53 sessions and 21 appliances and dentures were fitted.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS REQUIRING EDUCATION AT SPECIAL SCHOOLS OR BOARDING IN BOARDING HOMES.

	(1) Blind. (2) Partially sighted.		(3) Deaf. (4) Partially deaf.		(5) Delicate (6) Physically handicapped.		(7) Educa- tionally sub- normal. (8) Mal- adjusted.		(9) Epi- leptic.	Total 1-9
In the calendar year ending 31st Dec., 1955 :	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
A. Handicapped Pu- pils <i>newly placed</i> in Special Schools or Homes ...	—	2	3	2	2	1	6	7	—	23
B. Handicapped Pu- pils <i>newly ascer- tained</i> as requiring education at Special Schools or boarding in Homes ...	—	—	—	2	1	6	22	5	—	36
On or about January 31st, 1956:										
C. Number of Han- dicapped Pupils from the area:—										
(i) attending Spec- ial Schools as :										
(a) Day Pupils ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Boarding Pupils ...	—	3	14	4	1	6	54	10	2	94
(ii) Boarded in Homes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) attending in- dependent schools under arrange- ments made by the Authority ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	3	—	6
TOTAL (C) ...	—	3	14	5	1	7	55	13	2	100
D. Number of Han- dicapped Pupils being educated under arrange- ments made under Section 56 of the Education Act, 1944:										
(i) in hospitals ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) in other groups (e.g., units for spastics) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) at home ...	—	—	—	—	—	6	2	—	—	8

Handicapped Pupils requiring Education at Special Schools or Boarding in Boarding Homes—
continued.

	(1) Blind (2) Partially sighted.		(3) Deaf (4) Partially deaf.		(5) Delicate (6) Physically handicapped.		(7) Educa- tionally sub- normal. (8) Mal- adjusted.		(9) Epi- leptic.	Total 1-9
E. Number of Handicapped Pupils from the area requiring places in special schools:										
(i) TOTAL:										
(a) day ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) boarding	—	1	—	2	5	12	80	9	—	109
in above totals—										
(ii) who had not reached the age of 5:—										
(a) awaiting day places ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) awaiting boarding places ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) who had reached the age of 5 but whose parents had not consented to their admission to a special school:—										
(a) awaiting day places ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) awaiting boarding places ...	—	1	—	—	1	2	33	2	—	39

Number of children reported during the year—

(a) under Section 57 (3) (excluding any returned under (b)) 9

(b) under Section 57 (3) relying on Section 57 (4) ... Nil

(c) under Section 57 (5) ... 4

of the Education Act, 1944.

Amount spent on arrangements under Section 56 of the Education Act, 1944, for the education of handicapped pupils otherwise than at school, in the financial year ended 31st March, 1955 £139 0 0

BOROUGH OF LOWESTOFT.

(EXCEPTED DISTRICT).

The following report on the work of the School Health Service during 1955 has been prepared by Dr. A. C. Gee, School Medical Officer for Lowestoft.

"The year under review has been a difficult one through staff shortages. Our Speech Therapist left in April and no replacement for her has yet been found, this bringing to a standstill a service which has been continuous for several years and one which is very greatly appreciated by the pupils concerned. Agreement to the principle that the Lowestoft Excepted District shall, in future, have a full-time speech therapist has now been reached and when the appointment is filled, this will help a little to clear the rapidly mounting arrears of work.

We have also been very short of school nurses during the year. Miss D. Guest left in April and Miss M. Guest in July. Mrs. Carter, who joined the Department in April, filling the vacancy caused by the retirement of Miss Shipperbottom the previous year, was unable to do more than carry out the most urgent work. We have been fortunate in getting Miss Pretty to do part-time school work, but until at least two more full-time Health Visitor/School Nurses are appointed, the routine school work can only continue with difficulty. In 1951 we had five full-time Health Visitor/School Nurses. We are now reduced to the full-time service of two Health Visitor/School Nurses, the half-time service of one other, and sessional work only of a fourth. It has, therefore, been quite impossible to start any of the new schemes which we had planned, such for instance, as the vaccination against tuberculosis with B.C.G., which I mentioned in my last year's report. There have also been complaints from some head teachers of delays in cleanliness inspections and I regret to have to report that there is a consequent rise in the number of pupils found to be infested with head lice. This is disappointing, as a very substantial fall in this figure had been obtained during the past two or three years. Prompt attention to a school at which this problem is reported is the only effective remedy and this is difficult to provide with our present depleted staff.

A perusal of the statistical part of this report will show that the volume of work continues at about the same level. The number of routine medical inspections carried out is substantially the same as last year. Having dealt with the large number of new entrants during the previous two years, this year we have been able to catch up on the older age groups.

The classification of pupils into Good, Fair and Poor categories of physical fitness is much as in the previous year, only 0.28% falling into the latter category. Similarly, the numbers receiving treatment for various minor ailments are much as before, though, in this connection it is interesting to note that there has been considerably less impetigo this year than previously.

Measles was prevalent throughout the year, particularly during the months of July and August. In September there was a fairly extensive outbreak of a virus infection, the initial symptoms of which resembled early

poliomyelitis. Subsequent investigations proved that this was not, in fact, poliomyelitis. The actual number of cases of poliomyelitis notified amongst school children was three paralytic and ten non-paralytic cases.

My colleague, Dr. Sim, had the misfortune to have to undergo a serious operation during the year. This necessitated some time off duty, but I am pleased to say that she is fit and well again now. To her and to the other members of my staff who have worked under difficulties during the year, I wish to convey my appreciation of their efforts to keep on top of the work so that generally speaking, the routine programme of the Department has not suffered too much."

1. STAFF.

Borough School Medical Officer:

Arthur C. Gee, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy School Medical Officer:

Isabella Sim, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

School Medical Officers:

None.

The aggregate of time given to School Health Service work is equivalent to the services of one full-time Officer.

Speech Therapist:

Miss S. Barker, L.C.S.T. (resigned 17/4/55).

Principal School Dental Officer:

Mr. C. D. Macpherson, L.D.S.

School Dental Officers:

Mrs. H. A. Bell, L.D.S.

Miss Janet W. Hepburn, L.D.S.

County Nursing Officer:

Miss M. Vaughan-Jones, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Deputy County Nursing Officer:

Miss H. Place, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (from 4/8/55).

School Nurses:

Mrs. D. Carter (from 1/4/55).

Miss J. P. Cosnett.

Miss D. Guest (resigned 27/4/55).

Miss M. Guest (resigned 7/8/55).

Miss E. A. M. Pretty (part-time from 6/6/55).

Miss A. Taylor.

The aggregate of time given to School Health Service work is equivalent to the services of 1.75 full time School Nurses.

Dental Attendants:

Miss D. Rackham.

Miss D. Rudd.

2. STATISTICS.

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND
SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS).

A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups—

Entrants	473
Second Age Group	692
Third Age Group	765
Total	1,930
Number of other Periodic Inspections	194
Grand Total	2,124

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	—
Number of Re-Inspections	625
Total	625

C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

GROUP. (1)	For defective vision (exclud- ing squint). (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table II.A. (3)	Total individual pupils. (4)
Entrants	6	62	67
Second Age Group	51	25	72
Third Age Group	48	18	63
Total (prescribed groups)	105	105	202
Other periodic inspections	10	18	28
GRAND TOTAL	115	123	230

TABLE II.

A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS.

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease.	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS.		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS.	
		No. of Defects.		No. of Defects.	
		Requiring treatment.	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment.	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment.
4	Skin	13	6	—	—
5	Eyes—				
	(a) Vision	115	325	—	—
	(b) Squint	15	2	—	—
	(c) Other	4	2	—	—
6	Ears—				
	(a) Hearing	—	4	—	—
	(b) Otitis Media	1	2	—	—
	(c) Other	6	5	—	—
7	Nose and Throat	24	80	—	—
8	Speech	5	17	—	—
9	Cervical glands	3	11	—	—
10	Heart and Circulation	1	18	—	—
11	Lungs	13	35	—	—
12	Developmental—				
	(a) Hernia	2	2	—	—
	(b) Other	1	11	—	—
13	Orthopaedic—				
	(a) Posture	3	17	—	—
	(b) Flat Foot	6	8	—	—
	(c) Other	12	31	—	—
14	Nervous System—				
	(a) Epilepsy	1	4	—	—
	(b) Other	3	10	—	—
15	Psychological—				
	(a) Developmental	—	3	—	—
	(b) Stability	1	8	—	—
16	Other	8	5	—	—

B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE AGE GROUPS

Age Groups.	No. of Pupils Inspected.	A. (Good).		B. (Fair).		C. (Poor).	
		No.	% of col. 2.	No.	% of col. 2.	No.	% of col. 2.
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Entrants	473	221	46.7	251	53.1	1	0.21
Second Age Group	692	317	45.8	374	54.0	1	0.14
Third Age Group	765	454	59.3	309	40.4	2	0.26
Other Periodic Inspections	194	108	55.7	84	43.3	2	1.03
TOTAL	2,124	1100	51.8	1018	47.9	6	0.28

TABLE III.

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN.

(i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons	15,347
(ii) Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested ...	79
(iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54(2), Education Act, 1944)	—
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54(3), Education Act, 1944)	—

TABLE IV.

TREATMENT TABLES.

GROUP 1.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table III).

					Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year	
					By the Authority	Otherwise
Ringworm (i) Scalp	...	...			—	—
(ii) Body	...	...			1	—
Scabies	...	...			—	—
Impetigo	...	...			13	—
Other Skin diseases	...	...			71	—
		Total			85	—

GROUP 2.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

					Number of cases dealt with	
					By the Authority	Otherwise
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	...	...			34	—
Errors of Refraction (including squint)	...	...			174	—
		Total			208	—
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were						
(a) Prescribed	...	...			191	—
(b) Obtained	...	...			187	—

GROUP 3.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE & THROAT.

	Number of cases treated	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Received operative treatment		
(a) for diseases of the ear	—	2
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	—	131
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	—	7
Received other forms of treatment ...	13	—
Total	13	140

GROUP 4.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals	—	42
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g. in clinics or out-patient departments	21	38

GROUP 5.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT.

	Number of cases treated	
	In the Authority's Child Guidance Clinics	Elsewhere
Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	—	72

GROUP 6.—SPEECH THERAPY.

	Number of cases treated	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists	30	—

GROUP 7.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN.

	Number of cases treated	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
(a) Miscellaneous minor ailments ...	244	—
(b) Other	—	—
Total	244	—

TABLE V.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1) Number of pupils inspected by Authority's Dental Officers:—

(a) Periodic	1,857
(b) Specials	1,840
Total (1) ...	3,697

(2) Number found to require treatment	2,508
(3) Number offered treatment	2,497
(4) Number actually treated	2,120
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	4,938

(6) Half-days devoted to: Inspection	50
Treatment	815
Total (6) ...	865

(7) Fillings: Permanent Teeth	2,812
Temporary Teeth	484
Total (7) ...	3,296

(8) Number of Teeth Filled: Permanent Teeth	2,326
Temporary Teeth	449
Total (8) ...	2,775

(9) Extractions: Permanent Teeth	369
Temporary Teeth	2,298
Total (9) ...	2,667

(10) Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	1,309
(11) Other operations: Permanent Teeth	787
Temporary Teeth	444
Total (11) ...	1,231

HANDICAPPED PUPILS REQUIRING EDUCATION AT SPECIAL SCHOOLS OR BOARDING IN BOARDING HOMES.

	(1) Blind. (2) Partially sighted.		(3) Deaf. (4) Partially deaf.		(5) Delicate (6) Physically handicapped.		(7) Educa- tionally sub- normal. (8) Mal- adjusted.		(9) Epi- leptic.	Total 1-9
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
In the calendar year ending 31st Dec., 1955:										
A. Handicapped Pu- pils <i>newly placed</i> in Special Schools or Homes ...	1	—	—	1	—	3	2	1	—	8
B. Handicapped Pu- pils <i>newly ascer- tained</i> as requiring education at Special Schools or boarding in Homes ...	1	—	—	1	1	1	7	1	—	12
On or about January 31st, 1956										
C. Number of Hand- icapped Pupils from the area:—										
(i) attending Spec- ial Schools as :										
(a) Day Pupils ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) B o a r d i n g Pupils ...	2	5	3	1	—	6	15	2	—	34
(ii) Boarded in Homes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) attending in- dependent schools under arrange- ments made by the Authority ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL (C) ...	2	5	3	1	—	6	15	2	—	34
D. Number of Han- dicapped Pupils being educated under arrange- ments made under Section 56 of the Education Act, 1944:										
(i) in hospitals ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) in other groups (e.g., units for spastics) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(iii) at home ...	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	3

Handicapped Pupils requiring Education at Special Schools or Boarding in Boarding Homes—
continued.

	(1) Blind (2) Partially sighted.		(3) Deaf (4) Partially deaf.		(5) Delicate (6) Physically handicapped.		(7) Educa- tionally sub- normal. (8) Mal- adjusted.		(9) Epi- leptic.	Total 1-9
E. Number of Han- dicapped Pupils from the area re- quiring places in special schools:										
(i) TOTAL:										
(a) day ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	6
(b) boarding	1	—	—	—	1	—	14	1	—	17
in above totals—										
(ii) who had not reached the age of 5:—										
(a) awaiting day places ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) a w a i t i n g b o a r d i n g places ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
(iii) who had reached the age of 5 but whose par- ents had not con- sented to their admission to a special school:—										
(a) awaiting day places ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	6
(b) a w a i t i n g b o a r d i n g places ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	14	1	—	16

Number of children reported during the year—

(a) under Section 57 (3) (excluding any returned under (b)) 1

(b) under Section 57 (3) relying on Section 57 (4) ... Nil

(c) under Section 57 (5) ... Nil

of the Education Act, 1944.

Amount spent on arrangements under Section 56 of the
Education Act, 1944, for the education of handicapped
pupils otherwise than at school, in the financial year
ended 31st March, 1955 ... £101 0 0

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EAST SUFFOLK COUNTY EDUCATION
COMMITTEE



ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Principal School Medical Officer

1955

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